

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 12752 021737Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15
OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 /117 W
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R 021728Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6752

UNCLAS LONDON 12752

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, UK
SUBJECT: BP OIL FIND WEST OF SHETLAND'S AREA

1. ON AUGUST 1 BRITISH PETROLEUM ANNOUNCED THAT IT HAD MADE A BREAK THROUGH DISCOVERY IN THE WEST SHETLAND'S AREA (IN BLOCK 206/8). THE WELL PRODUCED HEAVIER OIL (25 DEGREE GRAVITY) THAN PREVIOUSLY FOUND IN BRITISH WATERS. WHILE BP SAID THE COMMERCIAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DISCOVERY WOULD NOT BE KNOWN UNTIL THERE IS FURTHER DRILLING IN THE AREA, IT MAY PRODUCE OTHER COMPANIES INTO NEW ACTIVITY. ONE COMPANY, ELF IS CURRENTLY DRILLING IN BLOCK 206/11; ESSO IS ABOUT TO DRILL A SECOND WELL IN 206/12; AND PHILLIPS IS NEGOTIATING FOR A RIG TO DRILL IN BLOCK 205/25. FIRST LICENSES FOR EXPLORATION WEST OF SHETLAND WERE ISSUED IN 1972 WITH A CONDITION THAT PART OF THEM GO BACK TO THE GOVERNMENT IN THE SPRING OF 1978. UNTIL THE BP DISCOVERY, SOME COMPANIES WERE PREPARING TO RELINQUISH TERRITORIES WITHOUT FURTHER DRILLING.

BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OILS, EXPLORATORY DRILLING, OIL FIELDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON12752
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770277-0425
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 5ce59e4f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Classification: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 1420971
Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: ENRG, UK, BP, BRITISH PETROLEUM
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Type: TE
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